

**Veterans Affairs  
Pacific Islands Health Care System  
459 Patterson Rd  
Honolulu, HI 96819**

April 20, 2009

To: Business Offices/ Case Managers  
Hospital/ Emergency Room Facilities  
State of Hawaii


To Whom It May Concern:

Please note that the VA Pacific Islands Health Care System (VA PIHCS) currently has a requirement that the attached Alert/ Notification Form be faxed to us (in addition to a copy of the hospital face sheet) within 72 hours of the Date of Service for emergency room (ER)/hospitalization. This is important in order for us to be able to process your claim under 38 USC 1703 which will allow us to authorize your facility for the acute episode of care assuming that the patient meets both legal veteran eligibility and acute clinical level of care criteria.

Claims for ER/hospitalization for care that we were not notified within 72 hours for via the above mechanism may be processed under different Authorities (38 USC 1728 and 1725). Please note that under the different Authorities cited, applicable VA reimbursement rate, veteran eligibility criteria, and clinical review may differ; the reimbursable amount may only cover until the Point of Stability; particularly if Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) was available to accept the transfer. In this light, it is very important to document attempts to transfer to TAMC for emergency hospital admissions. Requests to transfer to TAMC for hospital admissions can be arranged by calling 433-0786 during business hours and 433-5146 after business hours and on holidays. For more information, please contact the Fee Basis Office at 808-433-0024

| We continue to appreciate your service to our Pacific Island veterans.

Sincerely yours,



Enrico G. Camara, M.D.

Director

Office of Referral & Management Service